

Claim listing:

1. (Previously presented) A steel rule die including in combination  
a bottom board,  
one or more cavity boards on top of said bottom board,  
a metal plate located on top of said top cavity board,  
a top board located on top of said metal plate,  
a plurality of rule slots in said top board defining in plan view a rectangular  
or square configuration,  
a steel rule in each of said slots,  
each of said steel rules being generally flat to fit in a slot and having a bottom  
portion adjacent said metal plate and a top portion formed into a cutting edge  
residing above the surface of said top board,  
each said steel rule extending on a longitudinal axis and having first and  
second end portions,  
said first end portion extending at approximately a 45° angle to said  
longitudinal axis and on one side of said axis,  
said second end portion extending at approximately a 45° angle to said  
longitudinal axis and on another side of said axis,

said steel rules in said rule slots being arranged alternately with said first end portion of a given rule located adjacent said second end portion of a next rule adjacent said given rule.

2. (Previously presented) A steel rule die as claimed in claim 1 wherein the end portions of four steel rules meet to define an inside corner which is generally square in configuration, a generally cylindrical ejection rubber located within said square configuration to eject material cut by the cutting edges of the meeting steel rules.

3. (Previously presented) A steel rule die as claimed in claim 1 wherein ejection rubber is positioned on opposite sides of said steel rules to eject material cut by the cutting edges of said steel rules.

4. (Previously presented) A steel rule as claimed in claim 1 wherein said cutting edge is defined by a generally triangular shaped configuration.

5. (Previously presented) A steel rule die as claimed in claim 4 wherein the terminating end of each of said first and second end portions of said steel rule is formed on an angle to the vertical whereby the cutting edge thereat extends axially a greater distance than other portions of the terminating end.

6. (Previously presented) A steel rule die as claimed in claim 5 wherein slots are formed extending from said bottom portion into said steel rule to support said steel rule.

7. (Previously presented) A steel rule die including in combination  
a metal plate,  
a top board located on top of said metal plate,  
a plurality of rule slots in said top board,  
a steel rule in said slots,  
each of said steel rules being generally flat to fit in a slot and having a bottom portion adjacent said metal plate and a top portion formed into a cutting edge residing above the surface of said top board,  
each said steel rule extending on a longitudinal axis and having first and second end portions,  
said first end portion extending at approximately a 45° angle to said longitudinal axis and on one side of said axis,  
said second end portion extending at approximately a 45° angle to said longitudinal axis and on another side of said axis,

said steel rules in said rule slots being arranged alternately with said first end portion of a given rule located adjacent said second end portion of a next rule adjacent said given rule.

8. (Previously presented) A steel rule as claimed in claim 7 wherein said cutting edge is defined by a generally triangular shaped configuration.

9. (Previously presented) A steel rule die as claimed in claim 8 wherein the terminating end of each of said first and second end portions of said steel rule is formed on an angle to the vertical whereby the cutting edge thereat extends axially a greater distance than other portions of the terminating end.

10. (Previously presented) A steel-rule die as claimed in claim 9 wherein slots are formed extending from said bottom position into said steel rule to support said steel rule.

11-25 (Cancelled)